

2016

2016 Statistical Abstract for the Greater Waterville Area

Chi Do
Colby College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>



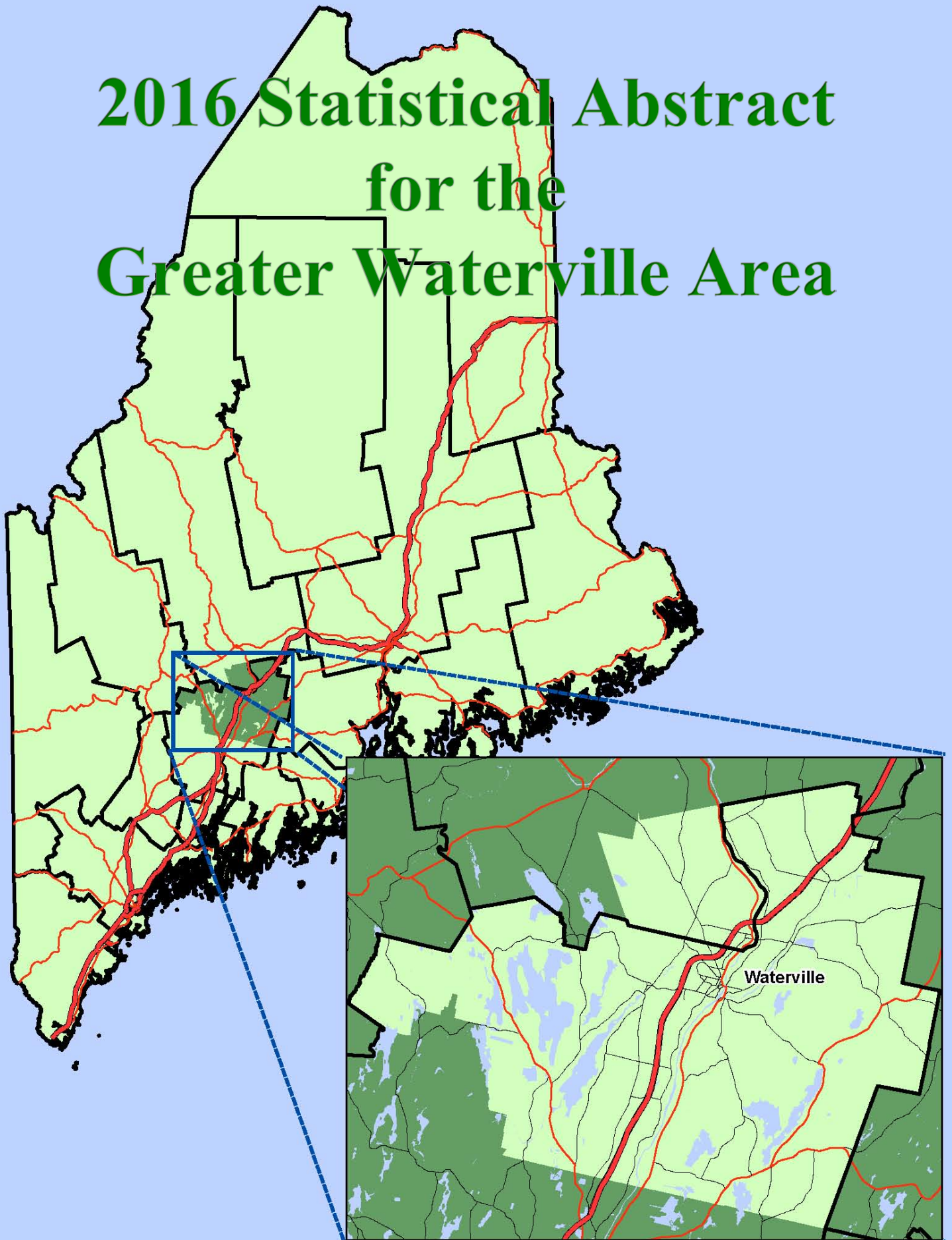
Part of the [Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Do, Chi, "2016 Statistical Abstract for the Greater Waterville Area" (2016). *Maine Town Documents*. 7110.
<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs/7110>

This Plan is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

2016 Statistical Abstract for the Greater Waterville Area



Acknowledgements

The data, charts and tables in this year's edition of the Statistical Abstract for the Greater Waterville Area were prepared by Colby College student Chi Do '18 in conjunction with the summer 2016 Public Policy Research Laboratory under the direction of Colby Professor of Economics Michael Donihue.

The data in this Abstract are subject to revision and are updated periodically.

Jason Beland '18 and Martin Deutsch '19 participated in earlier versions of this year's edition of the Abstract, contributing data and formatting for the charts and tables.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

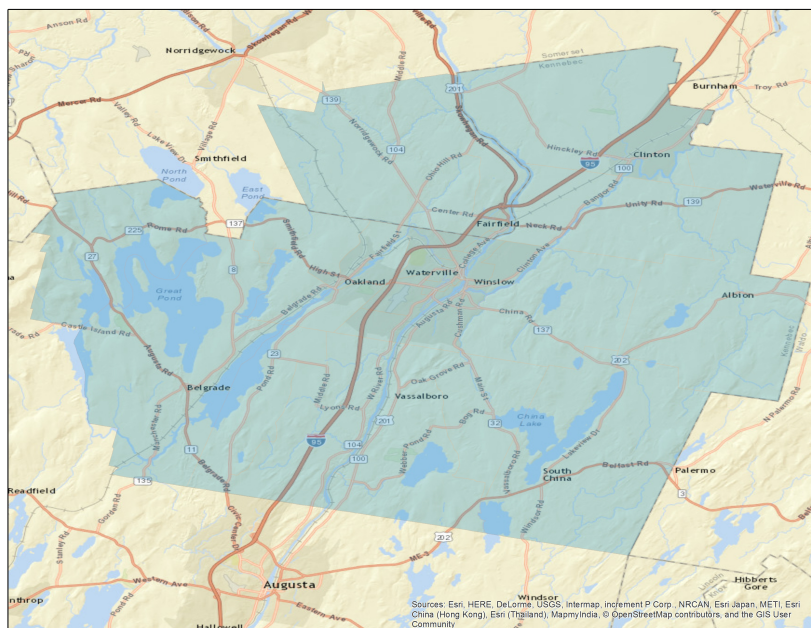
DEFINING THE GREATER WATERVILLE AREA	2
DEMOGRAPHICS.....	3
<i>Summary.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>State of Maine, Kennebec County and Somerset County.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Greater Waterville Area and city of Waterville.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Fairfield town, Oakland town, Winslow town.....</i>	<i>7</i>
RACE.....	9
RETAIL SALES.....	10
EMPLOYMENT	12
<i>Employment rates.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Employment status</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Employment by occupation.....</i>	<i>15</i>
EDUCATION	16
<i>Educational Attainment.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Dropout and Graduation Rates.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Eligibility for Free and Reduced-fee Lunch Program.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>MHSA Results.....</i>	<i>22</i>
CRIME	23
<i>State of Maine, Kennebec County, and Somerset County.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Greater Waterville Area, Waterville, Fairfield, Oakland, and Winslow.....</i>	<i>24</i>

Defining the Greater Waterville Area

This abstract is designed to provide information about a very specific region in Maine useful to professionals in the area who do not have ready access to these data. The target audience for this abstract includes community developers, policy makers, city planners, grant writers, and program evaluators. The available data for the region come in a variety of different formats and definitional units, often making comparisons awkward at best. The first edition of this Abstract appeared in January 2004. This edition updates the information in the previous Abstract.

In defining the Greater Waterville Area we began with the obvious – the communities of Waterville, Winslow, Oakland and Fairfield. We then looked to the available data. The 2010 census became the initial focus of our data collection efforts and thus our preliminary definition of the Greater Waterville Area focused on the census block groups. Labor market information from the Maine Department of Labor was also important

Minor Civil Division	Census Tract	Census Block Groups	City
Rome	155	1	Rome
Belgrade	160	1 & 2	Belgrade Lakes
Belgrade	160	3	Belgrade
Sidney	170	1 & 2	Sidney
Vassalboro	180	1	Vassalboro
Vassalboro	180	2	S. Vassalboro
Vassalboro	180	3	E/N Vassalboro
China	200	1 & 2	China
China	200	3	S. China/Weeks Mills
Albion	205	1 & 2	Albion
Clinton	210	1 & 2	Clinton
Benton	220	1	Benton
Benton	220	2	Benton Falls
Winslow	230.01	1, 2, 3, 4	Winslow
Winslow	230.02	1, 2, 3	Winslow
Waterville	241.01	1, 2, 3, 4	Waterville
Waterville	241.02	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Waterville
Waterville	242	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Waterville
Oakland	250	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Oakland
Fairfield	9668	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Fairfield



to us but is not generally available by census blocks. We then decided to look at the areas served by school districts in these communities and came up with a geographic definition that we felt had similar lifestyle patterns in terms of job opportunities and spending habits. This led us to minor civil divisions, a geographical subunit in the Census data unique to New England and generally consistent with the state labor market data. Using a combination of all of these spatial characteristics we came up with the definition of the Greater Waterville Area defined by the accompanying map and table.

Demographics

Summary

1. Population

The population of the GWA in 2014 is 61,585, which makes up about 4.6% of the state's population. The most populated town in the GWA is Waterville, which ranks 15th in population in the state of Maine. From 2010 to 2014, the population in the Area slightly decreased by 0.1% due to the population decrease in most towns except for Sidney and Waterville. This corresponds to the drop in population in both Kennebec County (-0.1%) and Somerset County (-0.2%).

The male/female ratio in the GWA is relatively balanced with the female population having a slightly higher percentage at 51.3%. This ratio compares favorably with the State and the two counties' data. The GWA has a lower percentage of the elderly population (age 75 and older) than the State, Kennebec County, or Somerset County in both 2010 (6.6%) and 2014 (7.0%). However, the two biggest towns in the Area, Waterville and Winslow, have a relatively high percentage of old people compared to other regions (generally above 8%).

2. Housing

There are more than 30,000 housing units in the GWA in 2014, which increased by 0.1% from 2010. The vacant housing units percentage in the Area is lower than the statewide rate (15.7% compared to 23.7% in 2014). Among the occupied units, there's significantly more owner-occupied housing (70.9%) compared to renter-occupied housing (29.1%) in 2014. This ratio is similar to the breakdown of occupied housing units of the State, Kennebec County, and Somerset County. Most towns in the GWA share this same breakdown except for the city of Waterville, where there is more renter-occupied housing (53.2% in 2014) than owner-occupied housing. The median house value in the GWA in 2014 is \$142,368, which is nearly 18% lower than the State's median house value.

3. Households

There are 25,319 households in the GWA in 2014, which increased by 0.1% from 2010. In both 2010 and 2014, there are more single parent households in the Area (9.8% in 2014) than the State (8.5%) and Kennebec County (9.4%). This percentage in the GWA decreased by 0.7% from 2010 to 2014 with Fairfield being the town that has the highest number (14.1%).

The median household income of the Area in 2014 is \$44,913, which is about 8% lower than that of the State. The percentage of people who received some kinds of public assistance income and/or benefit of the GWA is also generally higher than the State and Kennebec County in both 2010 and 2014.

4. Poverty

The percentage of people living under the poverty level in the GWA in 2014 is 13.1%, which decreased by 0.7% from 2010. This decrease is the opposite of the trend of the State and Kennebec County, making the percentage of people with income under the poverty level in the Area lower than both the State (13.9%) and Kennebec County (13.5%). However, as mentioned above, the median household income, as well as the per capita income, of the GWA is lower than both the State and Kennebec County in 2010 and 2014. The percentage of annual household income less than \$10,000 in the Area (8.6% in 2014) is also higher than the State (6.9%) and Kennebec County (7.2%) while the percentage of household income more than \$150,000 annually (5.1%) is lower than the statewide rate (6.1%). Moreover, even though the percentage of annual household income less than \$10,000 in Maine, Kennebec County and Somerset County all decreased from 2010 to 2014, this percentage increased by 1.2% in the GWA. Another indicator of poverty in the Area is the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-fee lunch programs in public high schools. From 2010 to 2015, the GWA consistently had a higher percentage than the state of Maine. In the school year 2014-2015, 54.1% of students in the GWA are eligible for free and reduced-fee lunch programs, compared to the statewide rate of 46.6%. This data is displayed with more details in the Education section below.

The city of Waterville is not only the most populated city but also the poorest one in the GWA. Waterville had a significantly lower median household income compared to the area or State level (\$33,461 in 2010 and \$31,995 in 2014), which is about \$13,000 lower than the GWA and nearly \$17,000 lower than the state of Maine in 2014. Adjusting for inflation, the median household income in Waterville dropped by 3.1% in 2014 dollars from 2010 to 2014. Similarly, the percentage of people with income below the poverty level is the highest in the GWA (22.8% in 2014) and is notably larger than the number of the State (13.9%), Kennebec County (13.5%), Somerset County (17.1%) and the Area average (13.1%). Other indicators, such as per capita income, percentage of annual household income below \$10,000, percentage of household receiving public assistance income or benefit, and eligibility for free and reduced-fee lunch programs, all indicate that the city of Waterville is much poorer than the State and Kennebec County level, as well as other towns in the GWA. The poverty scene in the city can be said to be contradictory with the fact that it has a significantly higher retail sales revenue compared to other towns in the Area (see Retail Sales section for more details).

A more detailed overview of the demographics in Maine, Kennebec County, Somerset County and the GWA is displayed in the three following tables.

Table 1: Demographics of the State of Maine, Kennebec County and Somerset County

Variable	Maine		Kennebec County		Somerset County	
	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014
Total Population	1,328,361	1,328,535	122,151	121,507	52,228	51,762
Annualized Growth Rate		0.0%		-0.1%		-0.2%
Females	51.1%	51.1%	51.3%	51.5%	50.4%	50.8%
Population Under 5 Yrs	5.2%	5.0%	5.2%	5.0%	5.2%	4.7%
Population Above 75 Yrs	7.4%	7.5%	7.4%	7.6%	7.1%	7.3%
Total Households	557,219	553,086	51,128	51,242	21,927	21,567
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.2%		0.1%		-0.4%
Average Household Size	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4
Housing Units	721,830	724,685	60,972	61,220	30,569	30,670
Annualized Growth Rate		0.1%		0.1%		0.1%
Vacant Housing Units	22.8%	23.7%	16.1%	16.3%	28.3%	29.7%
Owner Occupied Housing	71.3%	71.4%	71.3%	70.2%	76.5%	78.2%
Renter Occupied Housing	28.7%	28.6%	28.7%	29.8%	23.5%	21.8%
Household Income less than \$10,000	7.2%	6.9%	7.4%	7.2%	10.0%	8.7%
Household Income \$150,000 or more	4.9%	6.3%	4.3%	4.8%	2.5%	2.9%
Median Household Income	\$46,933		\$45,973		\$36,647	
Median Household Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$50,954	\$48,804	\$49,911	\$46,559	\$39,786	\$39,792
Annualized Growth Rate		-1.1%		-1.7%		0.0%
Households Receiving Supplemental Security Income	4.8%	6.1%	5.7%	6.3%	7.8%	8.0%
Households Receiving Cash Public Assistance Income	4.6%	4.6%	5.9%	5.0%	5.5%	4.6%
Households Receiving Food Stamps/ SNAP benefits	13.6%	17.2%	15.4%	19.9%	19.8%	22.7%
Per Capita Income	\$25,835		\$24,656		\$20,709	
Per Capita Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$27,560	\$27,332	\$26,768	\$25,636	\$22,483	\$21,765
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.2%		-1.1%		-0.8%
Percentage of Income below Poverty Level	12.6%	13.9%	12.5%	13.5%	18.4%	17.1%
Single Parent Households	8.7%	8.5%	9.5%	9.4%	9.9%	9.5%
Married-couple Families with Children living below Poverty Level	0.1%	1.8%	1.1%	1.7%	3.0%	3.1%
Median Home Value	\$176,200		\$148,100		\$109,500	
Median Home Value (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$191,294	\$173,600	\$160,787	\$151,400	\$118,880	\$110,500
Annualized Growth Rate		-2.4%		-1.5%		-1.8%

Source: Decennial Census 2010, American Community Survey 2010 & 2014 (www.factfinder.census.gov)

Table 2: Demographics of the Greater Waterville Area and the city of Waterville

Variable	GWA		Waterville	
	2010	2014	2010	2014
Total Population	61,825	61,585	15,722	15,886
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.1%		0.3%
Females	51.3%	51.3%	53.2%	52.1%
Population Under 5 Yrs	5.3%	5.2%	5.4%	6.3%
Population Above 75 Yrs	6.6%	7.0%	9.9%	7.7%
Total Households	25,186	25,319	6,370	6,539
Annualized Growth Rate		0.1%		0.7%
Average Household Size	2.5	2.4	2.1	2.1
Housing Units	29,898	30,037	7,065	7,335
Annualized Growth Rate		0.1%		0.9%
Vacant Housing Units	15.8%	15.7%	9.8%	10.9%
Owner Occupied Housing	71.9%	70.9%	47.8%	46.8%
Renter Occupied Housing	28.1%	29.1%	52.2%	53.2%
Household Income less than \$10,000	7.4%	8.6%	11.4%	16.5%
Household Income \$150,000 or more	4.7%	5.1%	3.5%	5.2%
Median Household Income	\$44,843		\$33,461	
Median Household Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$48,685	\$44,913	\$36,327	\$31,995
Annualized Growth Rate		-2.0%		-3.1%
Households Receiving Supplemental Security Income	5.6%	5.9%	10.3%	9.6%
Households Receiving Cash Public Assistance Income	6.9%	5.4%	10.2%	8.5%
Households Receiving Food Stamps/ SNAP benefits	15.9%	20.3%	24.8%	32.9%
Per Capita Income	\$23,665		\$19,411	
Per Capita Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$25,692	\$24,508	\$21,074	\$21,870
Annualized Growth Rate		-1.2%		0.9%
Percentage of Income below Poverty Level	13.8%	13.1%	23.5%	22.8%
Single Parent Households	10.5%	9.8%	11.3%	8.6%
Married-couple Families with Children living below Poverty Level	1.4%	1.7%	1.4%	3.5%
Median Home Value	\$135,550		\$109,000	
Median Home Value (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$147,162	\$142,368	\$118,338	\$129,500
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.8%		2.3%

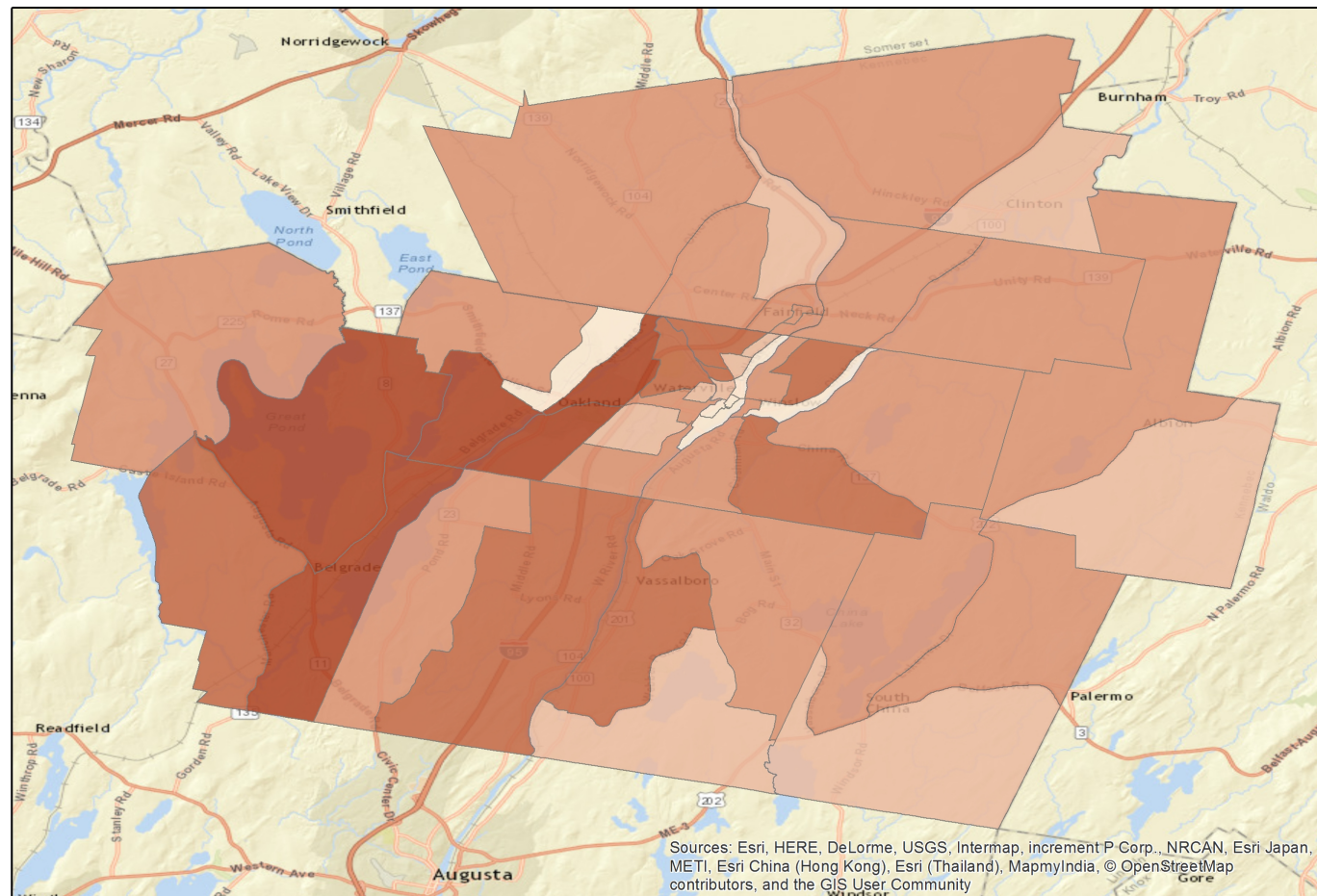
Source: Decennial Census 2010, American Community Survey 2010 & 2014 (www.factfinder.census.gov)

Table 3: Demographics of Fairfield town, Oakland town, and Winslow town

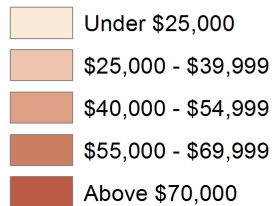
Variable	Fairfield		Oakland		Winslow	
	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014
Total Population	6,735	6,655	6,240	6,215	7,794	7,709
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.3%		-0.1%		-0.3%
Females	50.6%	52.5%	51.5%	52.1%	52.0%	53.8%
Population Under 5 Yrs	5.9%	5.2%	5.2%	2.2%	4.6%	5.0%
Population Above 75 Yrs	2.6%	5.8%	5.3%	9.1%	9.2%	8.9%
Total Households	2,793	2,803	2,543	2,557	3,328	3,278
Annualized Growth Rate		0.1%		0.1%		-0.4%
Average Household Size	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.4
Housing Units	3,016	3,069	3,024	2,965	3,692	3,624
Annualized Growth Rate		0.4%		-0.5%		-0.5%
Vacant Housing Units	7.4%	8.7%	15.9%	13.8%	9.9%	9.5%
Owner Occupied Housing	73.5%	77.2%	75.9%	70.9%	76.1%	76.3%
Renter Occupied Housing	26.5%	22.8%	24.1%	29.1%	23.9%	23.7%
Household Income less than \$10,000	9.3%	8.5%	6.9%	6.0%	4.8%	6.0%
Household Income \$150,000 or more	4.3%	4.4%	7.0%	9.6%	4.6%	3.6%
Median Household Income	\$46,685		\$46,343		\$49,688	
Median Household Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$50,684	\$46,295	\$50,313	\$58,897	\$53,945	\$42,459
Annualized Growth Rate		-2.2%		4.0%		-5.8%
Households Receiving Supplemental Security Income	3.8%	5.3%	4.0%	8.3%	3.4%	2.7%
Households Receiving Cash Public Assistance Income	7.4%	6.2%	6.2%	3.8%	6.4%	4.6%
Households Receiving Food Stamps/ SNAP benefits	16.2%	17.8%	12.0%	18.5%	6.5%	13.0%
Per Capita Income	\$22,795		\$27,223		\$24,580	
Per Capita Income (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$24,748	\$23,841	\$29,555	\$31,625	\$26,686	\$24,528
Annualized Growth Rate		-0.9%		1.7%		-2.1%
Percentage of Income below Poverty Level	14.1%	15.5%	7.7%	7.1%	10.7%	13.6%
Single Parent Households	14.7%	14.1%	8.4%	7.0%	7.4%	7.7%
Married-couple Families with Children living below Poverty Level	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	1.2%
Median Home Value	\$114,300		\$142,300		\$134,900	
Median Home Value (inflation-adjusted 2014 dollars)	\$124,092	\$118,100	\$154,490	\$151,900	\$146,456	\$142,600
Annualized Growth Rate		-1.2%		-0.4%		-0.7%

Source: Decennial Census 2010, American Community Survey 2010 & 2014 (www.factfinder.census.gov)

Map 1: Median Household Income Distribution of the Greater Waterville Area in 2014



Median Household Income Distribution



Source: American Community Survey 2014 (www.socialexplorer.com)

Race

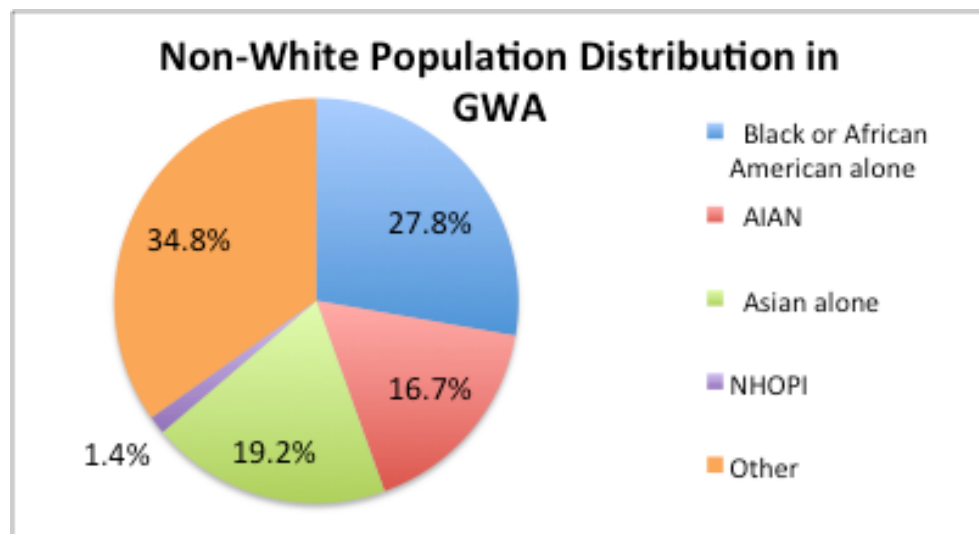
The race breakdown of the GWA is given below. The majority of the population in the Area is White (one race) (95.7%) and is not Hispanic or Latino (98.9%). Excluding the White population, the highest percentages in the Area are Black or African American (one race) and people of other races (including people of two or more races).

Table 4: Racial Diversity in the Greater Waterville Area in 2014

Variable	GWA
Race	
Total Population	61,585
White alone	95.7%
Black or African American alone	1.2%
AIAN alone ¹	0.7%
Asian alone	0.8%
NHOPI alone ²	0.1%
Other	1.5%
Hispanic or Latino	
Total Population	61,585
Not Hispanic or Latino	98.9%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1.1%

Source: American Community Survey 2014 (www.factfinder.census.gov)

Chart 1: Non-White Population Distribution in the Greater Waterville Area in 2014



¹ AIAN denotes American Indian and Alaska Natives

² NHOPI denotes Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific

Retail Sales

The retail sales data of the Greater Waterville Area in 2015 is displayed in the chart below. The city of Waterville contributes the most to sales volume of the area, totaling around 64% of the area’s sales. The main groups in the sales revenue of 2015 are Auto Transportation and General Merchandise.

The following table gives the detailed percentage change of retail sales from 2014 to 2015 for different towns in the Greater Waterville area. The highest change was experienced in the Auto Transportation section at 10.8% from the previous year. Another significant change was in the Business Operating revenues, where sales dropped by 8.8% from 2014.

Chart 2: Retail sales of selected towns in the Greater Waterville Area in 2015

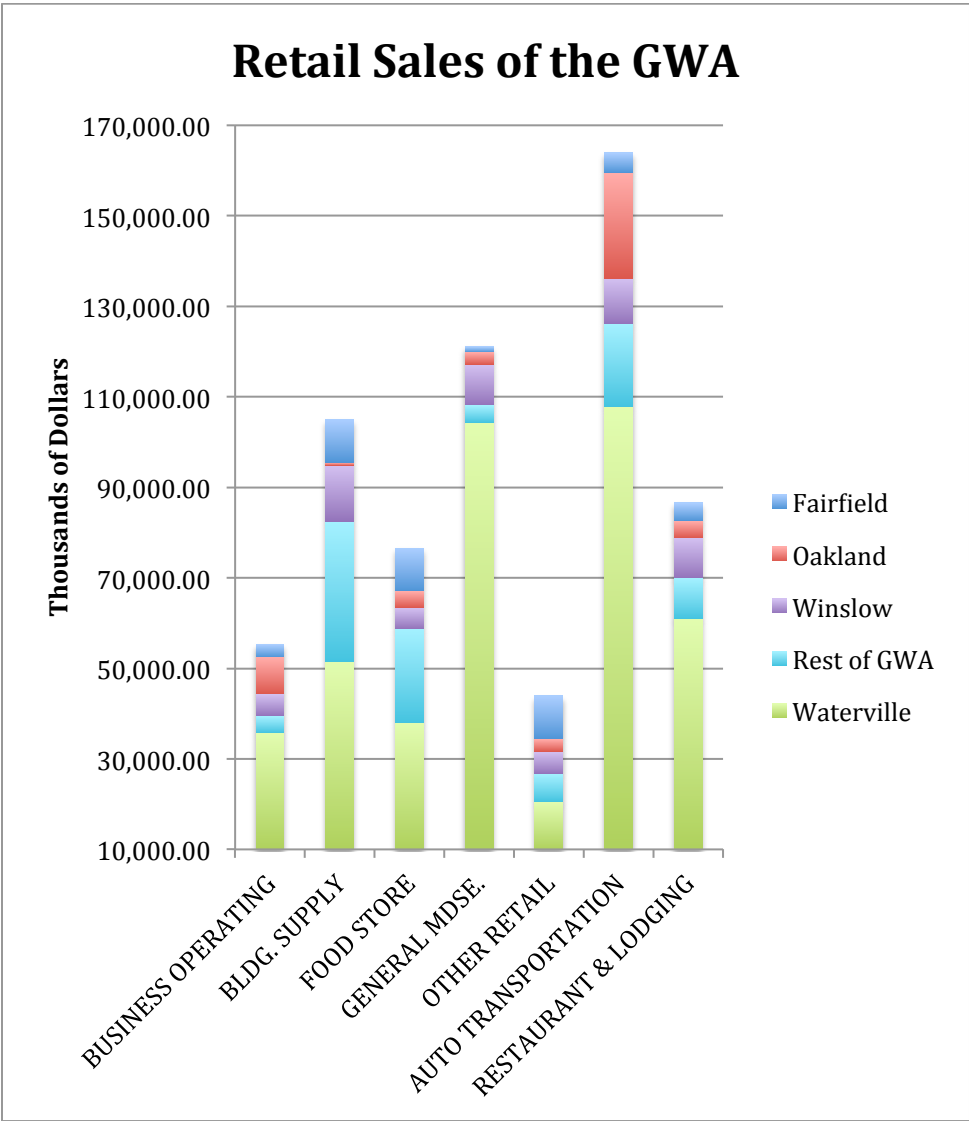


Table 5: Change in sales revenue from 2014 to 2015 of different store-type groups in the Greater Waterville Area

	Business Operating	Building Supply	Food Store	General Merchandise	Other Retail	Auto Transportation	Restaurant & Lodging	Total
Fairfield	-23.0%	6.0%	4.3%	10.7%	2.5%	9.7%	7.6%	2.7%
Oakland	-22.0%	2.3%	6.9%	12.6%	28.1%	15.9%	6.1%	5.3%
Waterville	-3.7%	3.3%	1.3%	4.6%	-1.4%	9.2%	1.0%	3.6%
Winslow	-2.8%	7.4%	1.9%	12.5%	3.1%	17.6%	4.8%	7.6%
Rest of GWA	-14.7%	4.0%	3.5%	13.9%	8.6%	10.7%	13.5%	5.7%
GWA	-8.8%	4.2%	2.5%	5.7%	2.8%	10.8%	3.1%	4.3%

Source: Maine Revenue Services (www.maine.gov/revenue)

From 2010 to 2015, the retail sales revenue in the Greater Waterville Area has constantly been increasing with an annualized growth rate of 3.3%. Again, this increase is largely due to the sharp gain in Auto Transportation sales volume, which has the annualized growth rate of 10%. The historical data of all store-type groups is displayed with more details in the chart 4.

Chart 3: Total retail sales of the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015

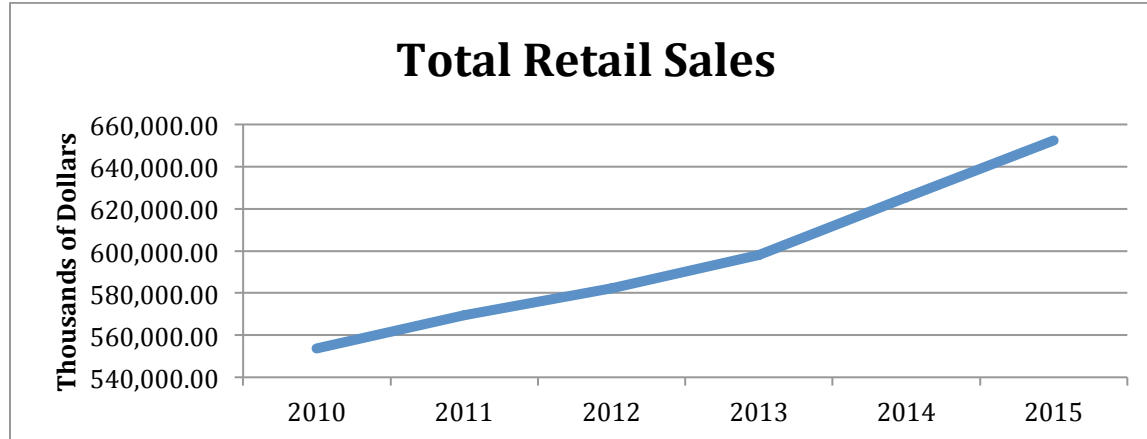
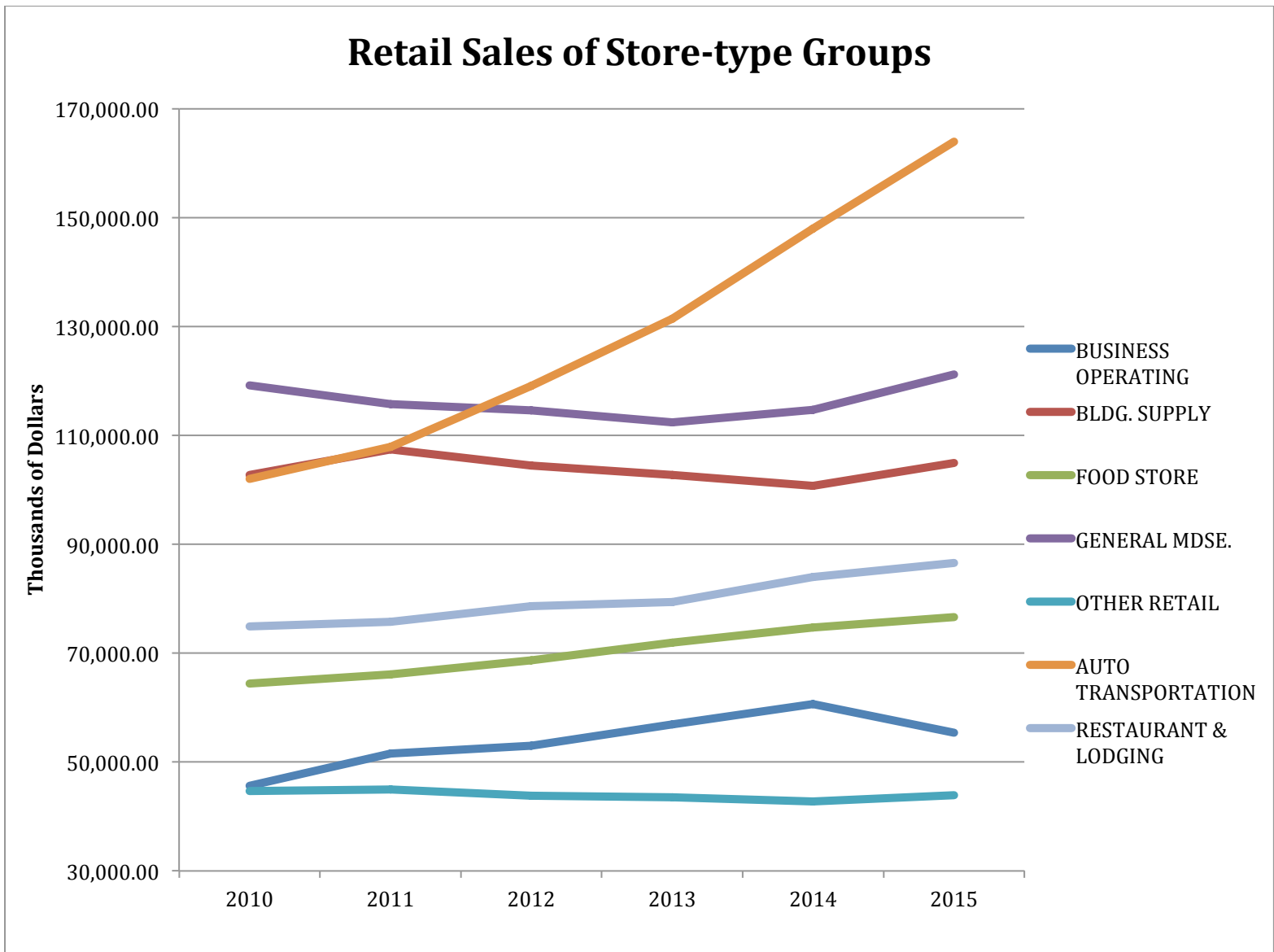


Chart 4: Retail sales of different store-type groups in the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015



Employment

The unemployment data in different regions is displayed in the following table and chart. In 2015, the unemployment rate in the Greater Waterville Area is 4.6%, which is slightly higher than the statewide rate at 4.4%. This might be due to the higher unemployment rates in some larger towns in the area, such as Waterville (5.2%) and Fairfield (5.0%). The chart below shows the historical data of the unemployment rate in Maine and the Greater Waterville Area in particular. It is observed that the unemployment rate remained low at the start of the Great Recession in 2007 (4.7%) and started increasing until it nearly doubled its value (8.1% for the GWA) and reached its

peak in 2010, which is the period where the aftermath of the recession still affected the Maine area. After the impact of the Great Recession, there has been a consistent downward trend in the unemployment rate. In 2015, the rate has return to its level before the recession.

Chart 5: Unemployment Rates of Maine and the Greater Waterville Area from 1990 to 2015

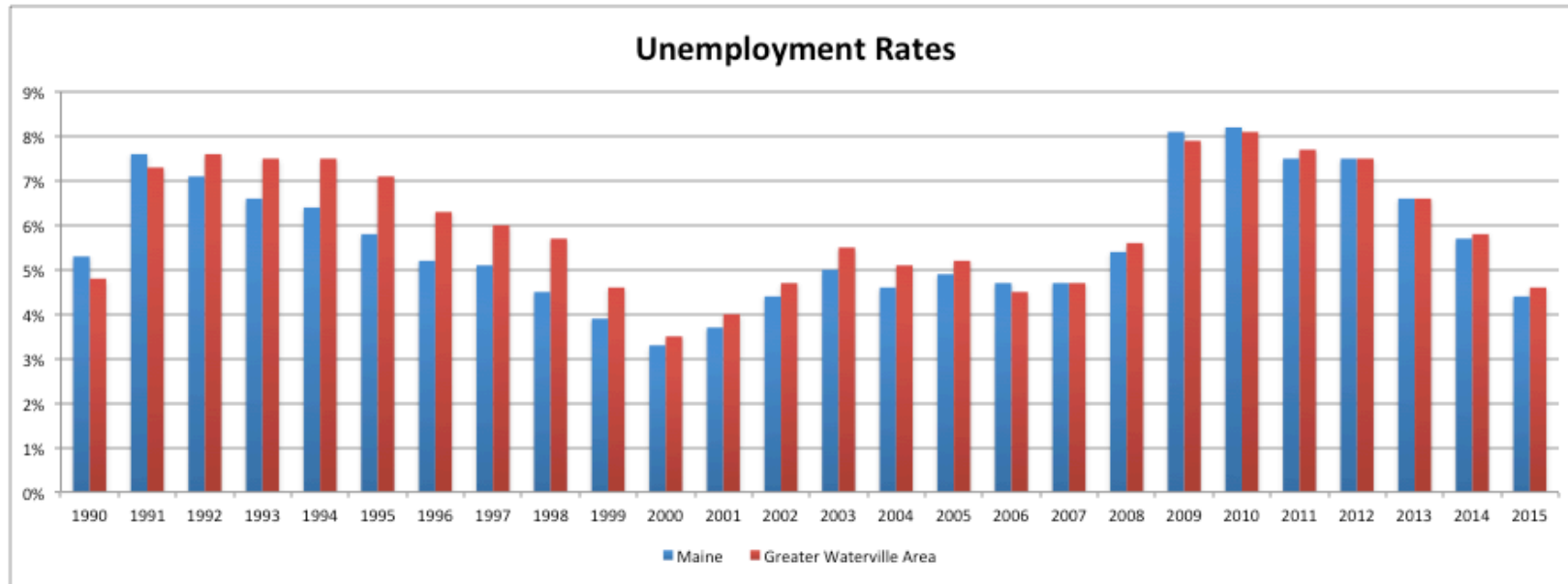


Table 6: Employment Status of Maine, Kennebec County, Somerset County, and the Greater Waterville Area in 2007, 2010, and 2015

	State of Maine			Kennebec County			Somerset County			Greater Waterville Area		
	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015
Civilian Labor Force	700,470	700,567	679,756	62,800	63,493	61,366	24,890	24,785	23,453	31,496	31,219	30,708
Annualized Growth Rate		0.00%	-0.60%		0.37%	-0.68%		-0.14%	-1.10%		-0.29%	-0.33%
Employment	667,780	643,244	649,855	59,920	58,642	58,769	23,170	22,002	21,913	30,012	28,691	29,292
Unemployment	32,690	57,324	29,901	2,880	4,852	2,597	1,720	2,782	1,540	1,484	2,528	1,416
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	8.2%	4.4%	4.6%	7.6%	4.2%	6.9%	11.2%	6.6%	4.7%	8.1%	4.6%

	Waterville			Fairfield			Oakland			Winslow		
	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015	2007	2010	2015
Civilian Labor Force	7,524	7,042	7,123	3,503	3,412	3,268	3,079	3,518	3,488	4,060	3,972	3,856
Employment	7,116	6,406	6,755	3,326	3,104	3,103	2,946	3,268	3,344	3,886	3,674	3,696
Unemployment	408	636	368	177	308	165	133	250	144	174	298	160
Unemployment Rate %	5.4%	9.0%	5.2%	5.1%	9.0%	5.0%	4.3%	7.1%	4.1%	4.3%	7.5%	4.1%

Source: Maine Department of Labor (www.maine.gov/labor)

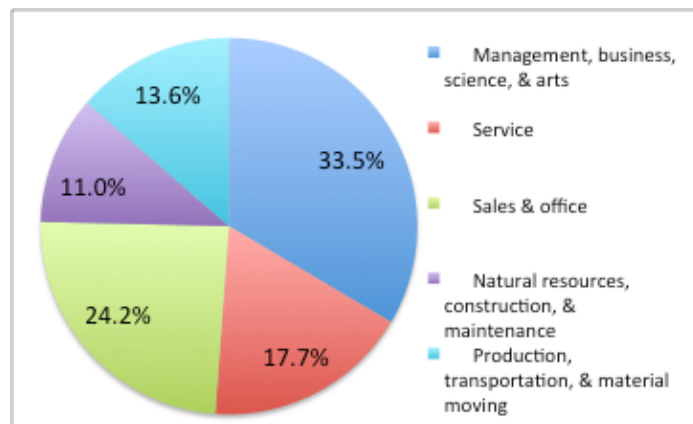
The data for employment within different occupations in the GWA is displayed below. The most popular occupation in the Area is Management, business, science and arts related with 33.5% of the civilian employed population. The next two highest percentage belong respectively to Sales and office occupations and Service occupations. Manual labor occupations employ less people in the Area compared to other occupations.

Table 7: Employment by Occupation in the Greater Waterville Area in 2014

Occupation	GWA
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	28,092
Management, business, science, and arts	33.5%
Service occupations	17.7%
Sales and office occupations	24.2%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	11.0%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	13.6%

Source: American Community Survey 2014 (www.factfinder.census.gov)

Chart 6: Employment by Occupation in the Greater Waterville Area in 2014



Education

The following figures give a ‘snapshot’ of the educational attainment for population who are 18 years and older. For both 2010 and 2014, the GWA has a lower percentage of people who attained Bachelor’s degree or higher than that of the state of Maine and Kennebec County. The majority of the population who are above 18 years old here graduated high school or had some college education or associate’s degrees, which is similar to the statewide distribution. From 2010 to 2014, the GWA experienced a slight drop of 0.5% in the percentage of college graduates and higher. This might be due to the increase of 3.7% in the number of people who had some college education but no degrees, which indicates that there has been a rise in the college dropout rate in the Area.

It is important to notice that in 2010, the city of Waterville had a lower percentage of people age 18 and older with at least a bachelor’s degree (17.9%) than the state of Maine (24.5%), Kennebec County (22.1%), and the GWA (20.2%). This percentage improved in 2014, which makes Waterville higher than the GWA but still lower than the state and county’s number. This data might appear unexpected to some people given the presence of Colby College, Thomas College, and the City’s hospitals in Waterville.

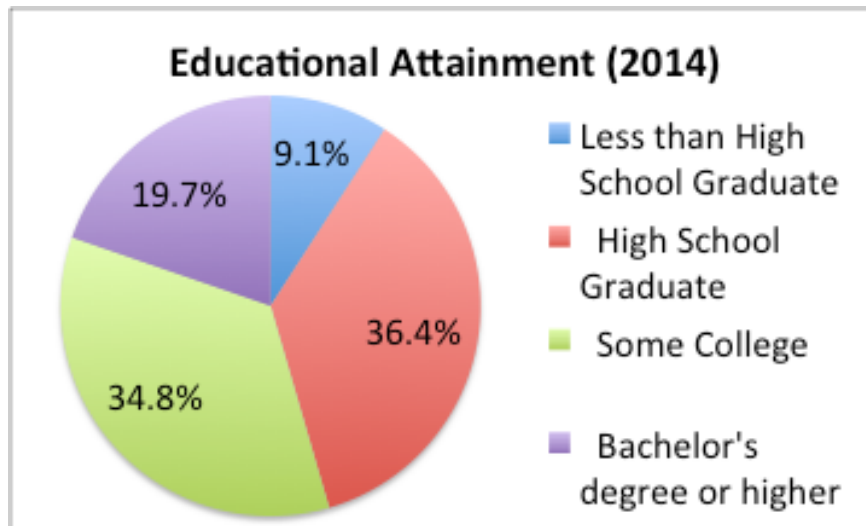
Table 8: Educational Attainment of Maine, Kennebec County, Somerset County, and the Greater Waterville Area in 2010 and 2014

Education Level	Maine		Kennebec County		Somerset County		GWA	
	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014
Less than High School Graduate	10.6%	9.0%	10.5%	9.4%	14.1%	13.1%	10.5%	9.1%
High School Graduate	35.1%	33.3%	37.1%	35.9%	43.9%	41.1%	38.2%	36.4%
Some College	29.8%	31.3%	30.5%	32.8%	27.5%	30.9%	31.1%	34.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	24.5%	26.4%	22.1%	22.0%	14.5%	15.1%	20.2%	19.7%

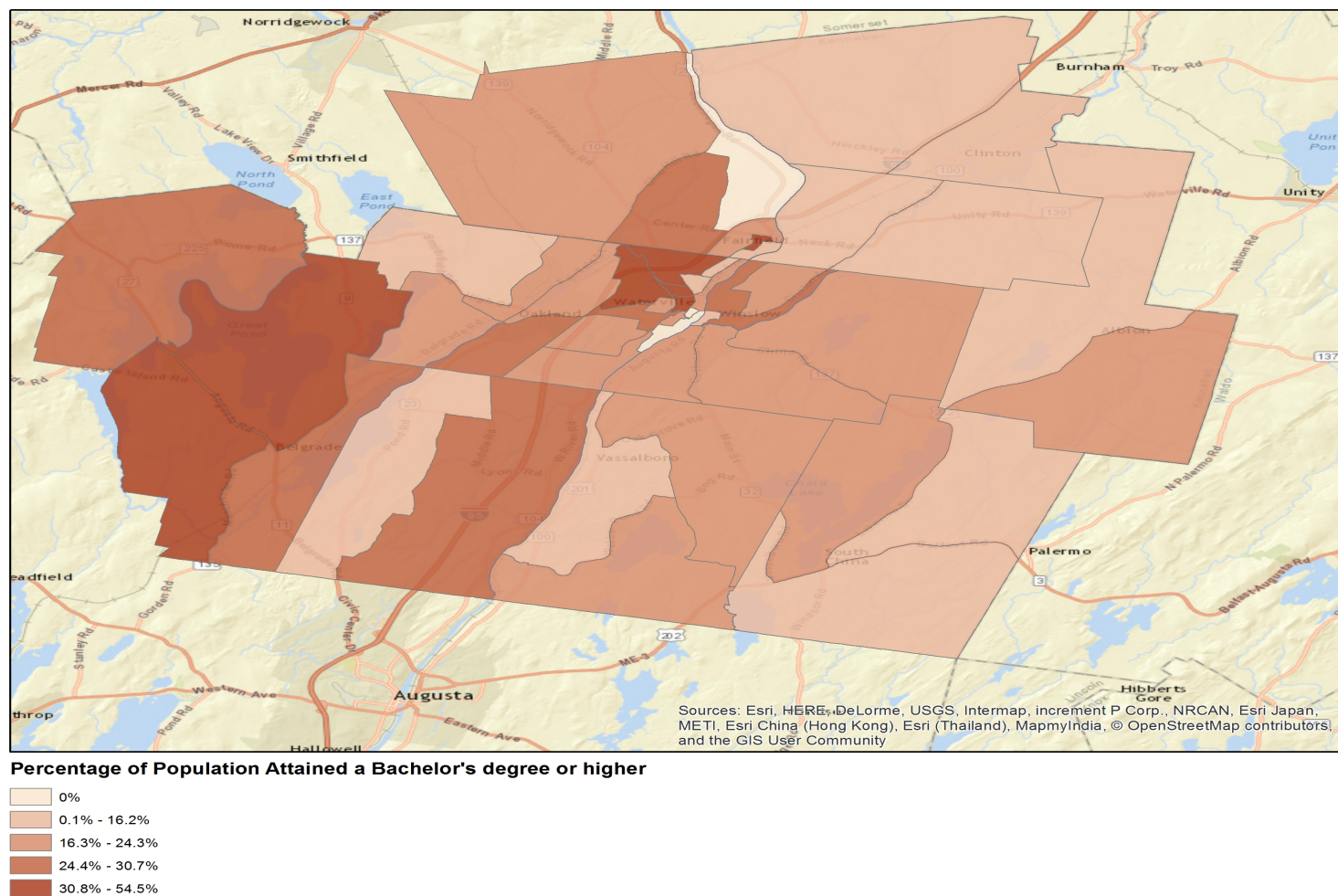
Education Level	Fairfield		Oakland		Waterville		Winslow	
	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014	2010	2014
Less than High School Graduate	9.4%	6.7%	8.6%	8.8%	12.6%	10.4%	10.3%	8.1%
High School Graduate	40.1%	36.9%	37.8%	37.6%	34.8%	32.2%	41.5%	35.5%
Some College	29.9%	36.3%	28.3%	34.8%	34.8%	36.8%	28.2%	33.3%
Bachelor's degree or higher	20.5%	20.2%	25.3%	18.8%	17.9%	20.7%	20.0%	23.0%

Source: Maine Department of Education (www.maine.gov/doe)

Chart 7: Educational Attainment of the Greater Waterville Area in 2014



Map 2: Population with a Bachelor's degree or higher in the Greater Waterville Area in 2014



Source: American Community Survey 2014 (www.socialexplorer.com)

An overview of the high school education in the Greater Waterville Area is given in the following table and charts, which show data for the dropout rate, graduation rate, enrollment trend, free/reduced-fee lunch programs, and the MHSA performance. While the statewide dropout rate decreases over the last 5 years, the trend varies in the Greater Waterville area, which is partially due to the lack of data from individual schools. As for the high school graduation rate, there is an upward trend in the Greater Waterville Area, with RSU 18 and RSU 49 having the highest graduation rates among the all schools. The public school enrollment data moves in the opposite direction as it generally decreases over the past 5 years. In 2015, all schools in the region witnessed a drop in enrollment.

Table 9: Graduation and Dropout rate of Maine and public high schools in the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015

	State of Maine		RSU 18 (Messalonskee High School)		RSU 49 (Lawrence High School)		Winslow High School		Waterville High School		Greater Waterville Area	
	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)	Dropout Rate (%)	Graduation Rate (%)
2010-2011	3.2	83.8	3.0	90.2	4.1	83.6	-	86.4	7.5	69.8	-	83.0
2011-2012	3.2	85.4	1.8	90.7	2.1	89.1	4.6	84.7	7.0	72.1	3.6	85.0
2012-2013	2.6	86.4	-	94.5	2.4	88.6	3.6	81.0	4.8	73.3	3.5	85.2
2013-2014	2.7	86.5	2.0	87.5	1.6	89.7	3.2	86.7	6.1	74.7	3.1	84.6
2014-2015	2.1	87.6	-	90.9	2.1	90.2	-	88.6	5.2	79.0	-	87.5

Source: Maine Department of Education (www.maine.gov/doe)

Chart 8: Graduation Rates of Maine and public high schools in the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015

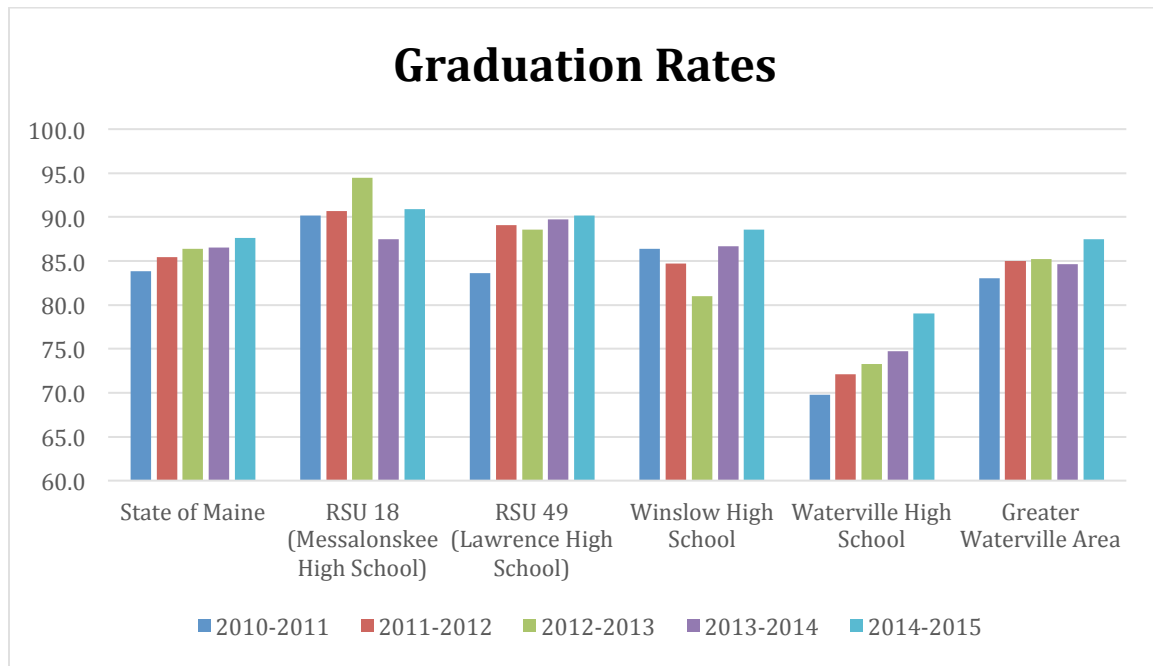


Chart 9: Public School Enrollment of high schools in the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015

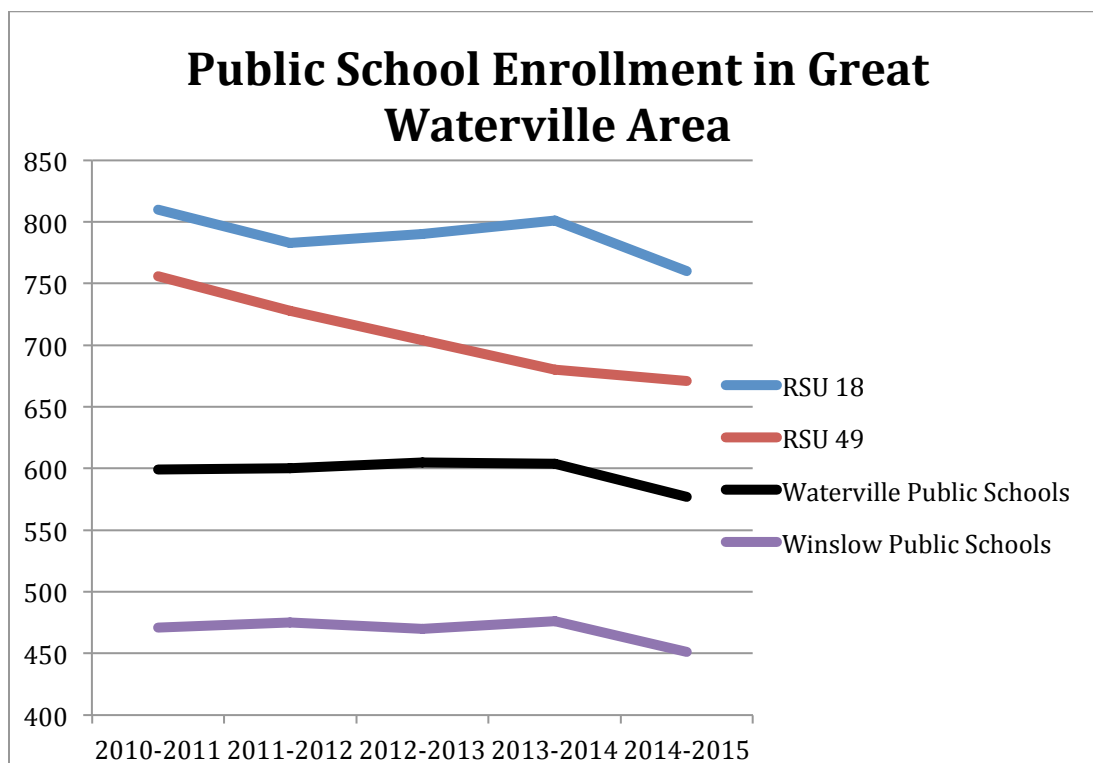
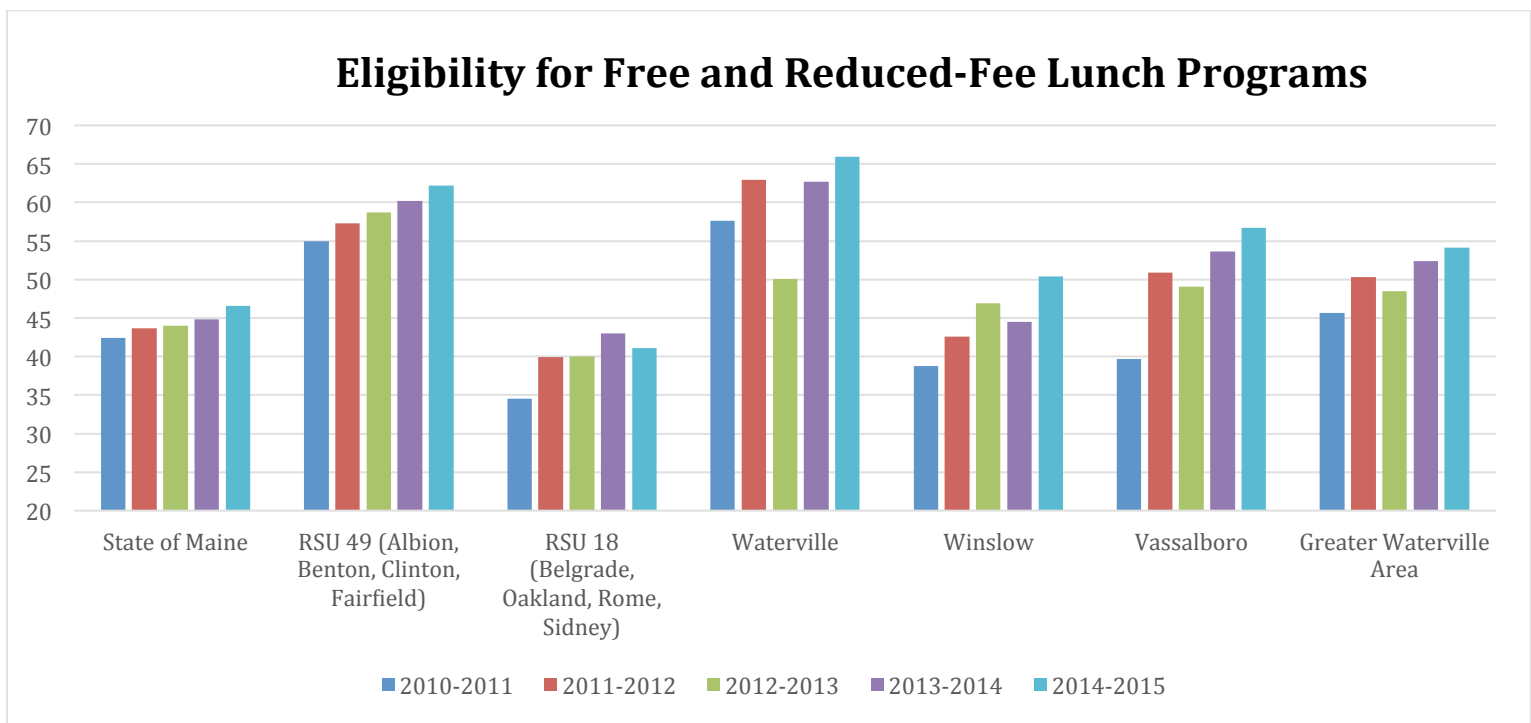


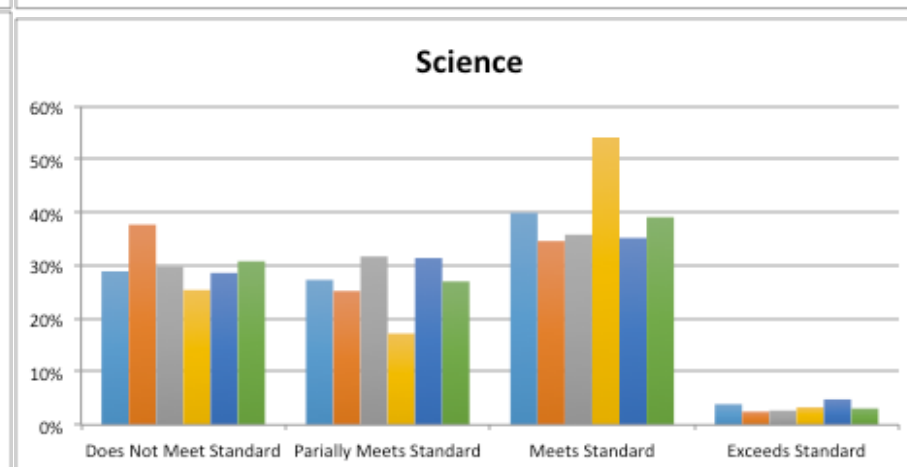
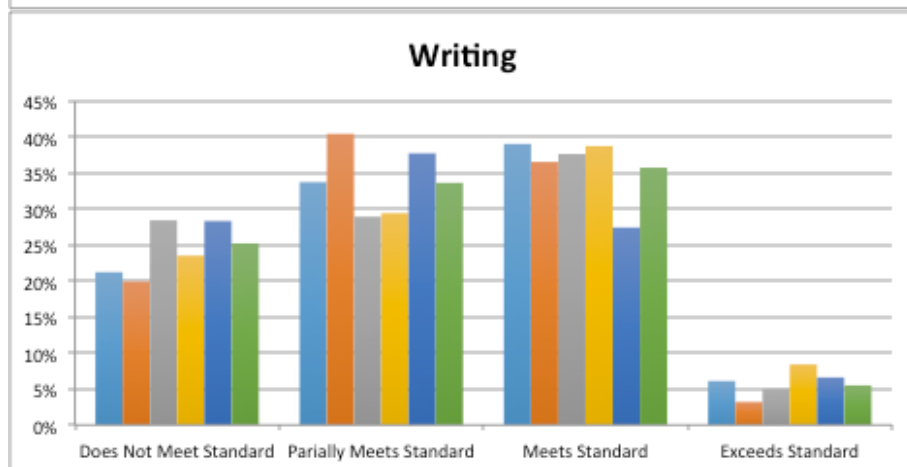
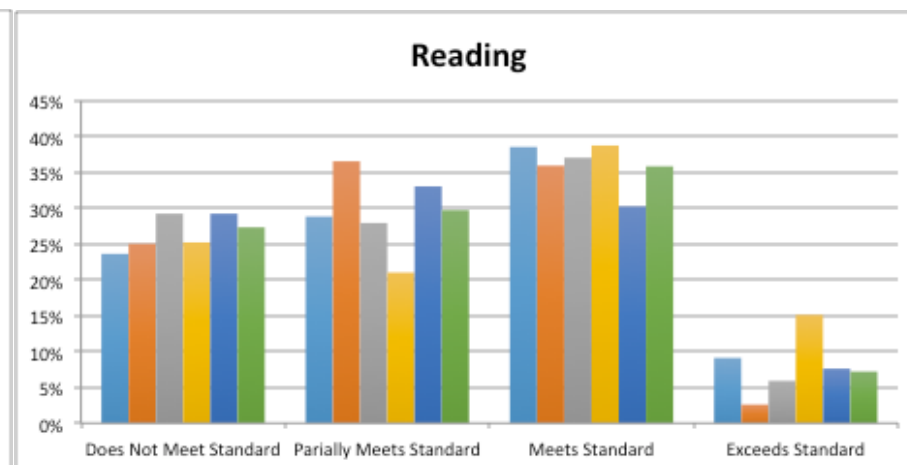
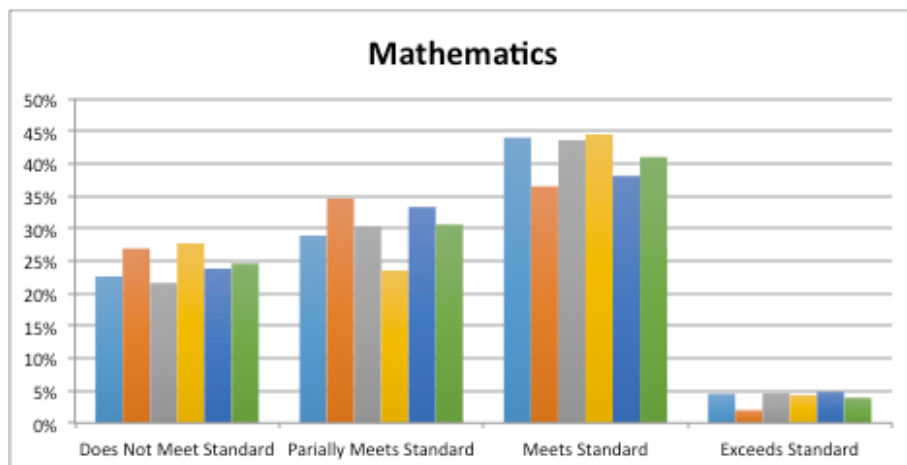
Chart 10 shows the percentage of students eligible for the Free and Reduced-Fee Lunch Programs. This is a federally funded program that aims at providing students from low-income family with low-cost (if household income is 180% of the federal poverty level) or free lunches (if household income is 130% of the poverty level). The data displays that most schools in the Greater Waterville Area experienced an increase in the percentage of students eligible for the programs over the last 5 years. Among the schools, RSU 49, Waterville Public Schools and Vassalboro Public Schools generally have the eligibility percentage significantly higher than that of the state of Maine. This chart suggests that poverty in the Greater Waterville Area has a tendency to worsen over time.

Chart 10: Eligibility for Free and Reduced-Fee Lunch Programs of Maine and public high schools in the Greater Waterville Area from 2010 to 2015



The Maine High School Assessment (MHSA) is comprised of 2 portions: the SAT reasoning test - which covers Math, Reading, Writing – and the Maine’s 11th-grade science assessment. The charts below display the percentage of students scoring in the range from “Does not meet Standard” to “Exceeds Standard”. Even though the results from individual schools vary, generally, the performance of students in the Greater Waterville Area is worse than that of the state of Maine.

Chart 11: MHSA results of Maine and public high schools in the Greater Waterville Area in 2015



Crime

Table 10 and Chart 12 show the crime rates for the United States, the state of Maine, and regions related to the Greater Waterville area. As defined by the Maine State Police, the crime rates used in this abstract represents the number of Index crimes per 1,000 residents. These charts display that the crime rates in Waterville and Fairfield are higher than the nationwide and state average. This data can be understood in details in the following table, where it shows that larceny and burglary contribute the most to the total crime rates in all regions.

Table 10: Crime rates in Maine, Kennebec County, Somerset County, and the Greater Waterville Area from 2009 to 2014

Crime	State of Maine						Kennebec County						Somerset County					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Murder	26	24	25	24	24	22	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	0
Rape	374	389	391	368	359	356	55	51	55	56	63	51	22	19	20	26	24	15
Robbery	398	416	370	421	335	304	28	29	37	44	36	45	8	10	5	14	4	18
Aggravated Assault	742	760	843	803	943	900	58	66	103	101	76	119	20	21	24	24	27	31
Burglary	6,711	7,343	7,826	7,429	6,453	5,009	630	812	894	830	671	470	387	411	382	406	318	293
Larceny	23,900	24,490	24,826	24,812	23,006	20,501	1,433	2,594	2,830	2,639	2,539	2,311	841	975	1,075	1,161	1,064	1,012
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,018	985	1,074	990	902	796	83	83	113	106	98	84	46	51	70	44	68	74
Arson	143	245	260	226	140	99	22	22	22	26	9	17	13	14	5	17	6	1
Total Crime	33,412	34,652	35,615	35,073	32,162	27,987	3,658	3,658	4,057	3,803	3,494	3,099	1,339	1,502	1,583	1,693	1,512	1,444
<i>Rate Per 1000 pop.</i>	<i>25.34</i>	<i>26.09</i>	<i>26.81</i>	<i>26.39</i>	<i>24.21</i>	<i>25.02</i>	<i>29.98</i>	<i>29.98</i>	<i>33.22</i>	<i>31.17</i>	<i>28.73</i>	<i>25.59</i>	<i>26.09</i>	<i>29.35</i>	<i>30.31</i>	<i>32.52</i>	<i>29.22</i>	<i>27.96</i>

Source: Maine Police Department

Crime	GWA				Waterville				Oakland				Fairfield				Winslow			
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014
Murder	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	23	23	28	29	17	15	15	15	3	3	6	2	0	0	2	4	3	5	3	3
Robbery	14	12	15	17	11	9	13	11	2	1	2	2	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	27	29	24	47	19	18	15	24	4	0	3	6	0	5	4	2	1	3	0	6
Burglary	205	253	222	170	85	154	105	98	24	16	33	19	49	44	49	37	23	22	24	10
Larceny	1,053	1,055	1,085	921	570	589	684	578	105	123	112	103	204	212	192	161	135	108	72	51
Motor Vehicle Theft	38	34	33	37	11	15	15	14	11	6	5	5	8	5	5	8	4	7	6	4
Arson	8	5	1	6	5	3	1	4	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Crime	1,374	1,413	1,408	1,228	718	804	848	745	152	149	161	138	264	270	252	215	166	145	105	74
<i>Rate Per 1000 pop.</i>	<i>34.4</i>	<i>35.4</i>	<i>35.3</i>	<i>30.8</i>	<i>45.7</i>	<i>51.2</i>	<i>53.3</i>	<i>46.5</i>	<i>19.5</i>	<i>19.1</i>	<i>20.9</i>	<i>18.1</i>	<i>39.2</i>	<i>40.2</i>	<i>37.9</i>	<i>32.5</i>	<i>26.6</i>	<i>23.3</i>	<i>16.8</i>	<i>11.9</i>

Source: Maine Department of Public Safety

Chart 12: Crime Rates in Maine, Kennebec County, Somerset County, and the Greater Waterville Area from 2009 to 2014

